

St. Raphael Catholic Church



1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

August 27, 2023

Please mail correspondence to the Parish Office
1592 Kimblewick Road, Rockville, MD 20854

Parish Phone 301-762-2143
Parish Fax 301-762-0719
Website www.straphaels.org

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor, ext. 112
Rev. Christian Huebner, Parochial Vicar, 301-762-2143, ext. 150
Email: huebnerc@adw.org
Rev. Thomas Morrow, Retired, ext. 128

Deacon Jose Carbonell, ext. 187
Deacon Richard Meyer, 202-365-0913
Deacon Jim O'Brien, obrien3@verizon.net
Deacon Frank Salatto, ext. 149

Mary J. Beaudoin, Dir. Of Religious Education, ext. 124
Teri Dwyer, Principal, ext. 121
Julie Cress, School Admissions, ext. 158 or jcress@straphaels.org
Luisa Duarte, Spanish Coordinator, 240-864-2565
Eileen Kutchak, Dir. of Parish Programming, ext. 110
Pietro Lojacono, Assistant for Religious Education, ext. 123
Annalee McHugh, Youth Minister, 240-864-2519
Vince Natali, Dir. Of Music Ministries, 240-864-2532
Krys Psurek, RCIA Coordinator, 240-864-2542
Elaine Salatto, Publications, Welcoming, 240-864-2513

New Parishioners: A warm welcome to St. Raphael's Catholic Church. Blue registration cards are available on the wall rack in the main entrance of the church or you may register online at:
<https://straphaels.org/parish-registration-form>

The **Parish Ministry List** can be found on our website,

St. Vincent de Paul/St. Raphael Conference
Intake Number: 240-447-7027

For Life Affirming Resources:

<https://adw.org/about-us/resources/pregnant-need-help/>
Healing after abortion? Project Rachel 301-853-4565

Abuse isn't love. Help is available 24/7 on the National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, (children), 11:30AM,
1:00PM (español), 6:00PM (youth)

Weekday Masses: Monday thru Friday: 6:30 and 9:00AM
Saturday: 9:00 AM

Penance : Tuesday: 7:00 - 7:30 PM and
Saturday: 3:45 - 4:30 PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesday: 6:45 PM
Thursday: 9:30 AM

Benediction: Tuesday, following novena 7:45 PM
Thursday, 7:15PM

Miraculous Medal Novena: Tuesday, 7:30PM
Divine Mercy Chaplet: Tuesday, following Novena
Thursday, 7:00PM

Sacrament of Baptism: Parish Registration and a Baptism class is required. Please contact Eileen Kutchak, 240-864-2510, to register and plan to attend the class while awaiting the birth or adoption of your child.

Sacrament of Matrimony: In accord with the regulations of the Archdiocese of Washington, couples must contact a priest and begin preparation at least six months prior to the wedding. Parish registration and active participation for the minimum of three months is required before preparation may begin. Living together before marriage is sinful and harmful to the future marriage. Couples who are living together will be asked to live separately during the preparation time.

What does it mean to be an active Catholic? Frequently, those seeking to celebrate Marriage, have children baptized, or serve as sponsors for Confirmation or Baptism request a letter stating they are parishioners and active, practicing Catholics. To receive such a letter, one must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly, and be committed to a stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We encourage all parishioners to become active in one of the parish organizations. In a community as large as St. Raphael, one means of verifying participation is through the regular use of parish offertory envelopes. If you choose not to participate in the support of the parish, or are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory. We will then be aware of your continued participation, and you will not be noted as "inactive" on our parish roster.

The 2024 Mass intention request book will open on Tuesday, August 29.

You may request your Mass intention (limit 12) in person at the Parish Office.

Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30AM-5PM.

The Rite of Christian Initiation, **RCIA**

We are in the RCIA Inquiry Stage. If you are thinking about joining the Catholic Church, or just looking for meaning in life, please join our meetings Sundays in the youth center after the 8:30AM Mass. We will move from inquiry to catechism at the end of September 2023.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

You can join RCIA at any time! To learn more about it, please call Krys Psurek, 240-864-2542 and leave a message. He will call you back. You can also check the latest RCIA announcements and schedule at St. Raphael web site www.straphaels.org, Faith Formation, RCIA.

Need Marriage Help?

Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands of couples struggling in their marriage.

For confidential information or to register **for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend September 1-3, please visit:**

www.HelpOurMarriage.org, call (443) 400-7017, or email us at: Maryland@HelpOurMarriage.org

Disaster Relief for Maui:

Donations to assist in the recovery efforts can be made directly through Catholic Charities USA at www.catholiccharitiesusa.org or telephone 1-800-915-9338.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, August 28

6:30AM Richard Hacker (d)
9:00AM Ojen Sivaslian (d)

Tuesday, August 29

6:30AM Oscar Escobar (d)
9:00AM Marjorie Cammarota (d)

Wednesday, August 30

6:30AM Sheila McLaughlin (d)
9:00AM Sheila Joseph

Thursday, August 31

6:30AM Chelo David & Family
9:00AM Irene Flaherty (d)

Friday, September 1

6:30AM Kim Marie Dee (d)
9:00AM Miguel Jimenez (d)

Saturday, September 2

9:00AM Jim Verme (d)
5:00PM Fr. John Dillon, Dunn & Schuyler Families (d)

Sunday, September 3

7:00AM Fr. John Nelly Salah (d)
8:30AM Fr. Christian Lawrence Leong (d)
10:00AM Fr. Christian Gary M. Welsh (d)
11:30AM Fr. John Miguel Martinez & Jim Edmondson (d)
1:00PM Fr. Christian David Warner (d)
6:00PM Fr. John Members of the Parish

The priest schedule is subject to change.

Live-streamed Masses:

There will be daily live-streamed Masses, Sunday English and Spanish Masses.

Go to website: www.straphaels.org and click the link to YouTube Channel.

Holy Mass

followed by
Healing Prayers

SEPTEMBER 5, 7:00 PM

Confessions will continue during
Mass and Healing Prayers.

*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*



Bulletin notices are due in writing ON THURSDAY, THE WEEK BEFORE THE published date. Notices may be emailed to: esalatto@straphaels.org. This bulletin was transmitted August 18.

Blessed Sacrament Bereavement Support Group

The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 3630 Quesada Street, NW Washington, DC, 20015-2538, will offer an eight-week bereavement support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse, child, sibling or significant other. The next series will begin **Tuesday October 24, 2023** and continue for eight consecutive Tuesdays through December 12, 2023 from 7:00-8:30 PM. **The meetings are virtual.** For more information contact Jim Hoffman at hoffmanlpc@gmail.com or call cell: (202) 577-2213.

Parental, Spousal and Significant-Other Bereavement Support Group

St. Elizabeth Bereavement Ministry will offer an eight-week bereavement support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse or significant other. The sessions will be held virtually on Zoom. The Fall series will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7 – 8:30 PM, from September 20 – November 9, 2023. There is no fee but registration is required. Space is strictly limited so call early. To register call Deacon Kevin Byrne (301-279-5962) or Claudia McAuliffe (301-881-1457).

Join Scouting at St. Raphael's – Troop 944

Do you know a middle school or high school student interested in camping, pioneering, hiking, or outdoor activities, and may want to join Scouting? If so, Troop 944 is a Scout led troop that meets at St. Raphael's. Troop 944 is a very active troop with a long history and many active volunteers. We meet at the St. Raphael Church on Thursday evenings (Starting September 12) from 7:30 to 9:00 PM during the school year.

If you are interested to learn more about Scouting or joining Troop 944, please contact Troop 944 Scoutmaster, Sarah Osborne, osbornejams@yahoo.com.

Usher Ministry - We need your help!

Please contact Terry Salsgiver at **301-437-2018** or tsalsgiver@comcast.net

Scripture Readings for the Week of August 27, 2023

Sunday **Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

Monday **Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday **Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the Baptist**
1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-3, 4-6; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday
1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday
1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 & 17; Mt 24:42-51

Friday
1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1 & 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday
1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday **Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

More Religious Education information on page 9

Register for SRRE
Today . . .



If you are approached by someone in church or parking lot in need of help, please hand them a bulletin with below information. The SVdP intake number is also on bulletin front cover.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Raphael Catholic Church Conference
1513 Dunster Road
Rockville MD 20854
240-447-7027 - Intake

If you are in need of financial help (for utilities, housing, food or other needs) please call the phone number above. If no one answers, leave a message, giving your name and phone number, repeating the phone number a second time.

You will receive a call from one of our members within 24 hours. If you don't receive a return call in 24 hours, please call again to make sure the message wasn't missed.

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR AUGUST

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council serves the St. Raphael community by advising the Pastor on matters of concern to parishioners. If you would like the Council to consider a particular issue, please feel free to send an email message to: parishcouncil@straphaels.org.

Come Join St. Raphael's Team to Support ADW Ride for Vocations

CHECK YOUR BRAKES! REFILL YOUR WATER BOTTLES! THROW YOUR BICYCLE ON THE BIKE RACK, AND JOIN HUNDREDS OF CATHOLICS FOR THE "RIDE FOR VOCATIONS" SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH.



Once again a team of riders from St. Raphael's, including Deacon Rich Meyer, Bill Arcieri, Mike Coene, Alonzo Garcia, Daniel Rueda Posada, and Frederico Sologuren will be joining a group of priests, seminarians, and laypeople from across the Archdiocese of Washington to participate in a long-distance bicycle ride to support priestly vocations in the Archdiocese through prayer, sacrifice, and financial support. The goal for the ride is to have each participant raise at least \$250 from either his/her sponsors, fundraising or personal charitable contribution. Cyclists of all experience levels are welcome to join us for our Bike Ride at either the 100, 70, 50, or 20-mile distance. The ride will start from Sacred Heart Church in LaPlata, MD and proceed along the state's beautiful southern byways. Re-fuel your body and soul at Catholic Churches along the way. To register or obtain further information on the ride, please see <https://dcpriest.org/ride-for-vocations>.

Please contact Bill Arcieri at warcieri@gmail.com or Deacon Rich at rsmhome@verizon.net for further information on joining the St. Raphael's team, including practice rides, or supporting or team financially. Should you choose to donate online, please indicate that your donation is in support of the St. Raphael's team.

Balance Work & Prayer! Unique Retreat Experience for Men September 15-17, 2023




Are you a man looking for more effective ways to balance work and prayer in your life? Look no further! Our Super Spirits & Service Retreat Weekend is just what you need. We are thrilled to invite you to a transformative retreat experience that combines prayer, physical activity, and inspirational preaching.

Led by one of our premier retreat masters, this retreat offers a unique opportunity to deepen your spiritual practice while also participating in critical improvement projects at the Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center. But it's not all work and no play - you will also get to enjoy lively fellowship with some great guys! Best of all, it's free to attend! All we ask is for your sweat equity. Don't miss out on this chance to renew your spirit and make a positive impact - sign up for our retreat today. Find more information and links to register on the website www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, A Place to Encounter Christ! 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. Plan your next retreat today!

Book Your Next Retreat Today!

Personal Retreat Days

WWW.OURLADYOFBETHESDA.ORG

 7007 Bradley Blvd,
Bethesda, MD
301-365-0612

Have you experienced shame and had feelings of sadness, regret or guilt after abortion or the use of the abortion pill?

You are not alone! Any woman, who has gone through an abortion, is invited to attend an *Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing on Saturday, October 14, 2023*. You will find the Sacraments, a caring retreat team, a witness talk, and a non-judgmental atmosphere, to heal from this shame and other negative emotions that come after abortion. Exact location and participation is confidential, due to the personal nature of this experience. For more information, contact Project Rachel Ministry, sponsored by The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington: 301-982-2008. You are welcome to email, just remember that email is not a confidential means of communication hope@adw.org

EPIC: The Early Church

Tuesday Mornings 10 -12:00 Noon in PARISH LIBRARY **September 12 – November 14**

Tuesday Mornings 10:30 – 12:00 Noon on ZOOM **September 12 – November 14**

Thursday Evenings 7:30 – 9:00 PM on ZOOM **September 14 – November 16**

Epic: The Early Church is about the first 500 years of the Church – a time of courageous saints, brilliant philosophers, eloquent theologians, threatening heresies, ruthless emperors, and heroic martyrs – a time that prepared the Church to carry on the faith. This 10-part study with its colorful workbook, videos & timeline chart will draw you closer to Christ through a deeper understanding of His Church.

For further information and to sign up, contact Dorothy Welsh at dwwelsh5@aol.com (for Tuesday classes) or Terry Salsgiver at tsalsgiver@comcast.net (for Thursday class).

View & order the Study Set (materials & online video access \$26.95) at www.ascensionpress.com and they will be sent directly to you.



walking with purpose

Make authentic connections with other women

Refuel and refresh | Learn more about God

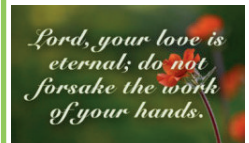
Walking with Purpose gives women the opportunity to embark on a journey where they learn how they can navigate everyday challenges and struggles with the help of Biblical teachings, the love of Jesus Christ and the support of other women.

This fall St. Raphael will be offering, *Opening Your Heart*, which explores the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ. Join us as we examine the core questions that we need to wrestle with if we want to experience all that God has for us.

We will meet Thursday morning's from 9:45-11:30 AM, Youth Center, beginning September 14, 2023. Child care will be available off-site. Registration will open in August.

Questions? Contact Janice Frankford at jwfrankford@yahoo.com or (206) 661-2972
To Register, Contact: Kathy Lising at (301) 525-8678 or straphael.wwp@gmail.com

join us



Become a Committed Adorer

Our Lord is hidden there in the Blessed Sacrament, waiting for us to come and visit him.
St. John Vianney

A Holy Hour brings Heaven's choicest blessings on those who are faithful to their Hour.
Pope St. Paul VI

What a gift that anyone can come to St. Raphael's on any Thursday to enter Adoration and receive these blessings!

Committed Adorers are the "backbone" of Adoration. They commit to be present for one hour they chose on Signup Genius (<https://bit.ly/STRadoration>).

For more information, please contact the Coordinator Team at stradoration@gmail.com or call Laure Quesnel (301-693-3479).



School News

A peek behind our classroom doors

AUGUST 27, 2023



It has been a Summer full of FUN



SRS and SRNS students have been enjoying summer! Rising eighth grader ran into Fr. Christian at Heathrow Airport during his travels. What a fun surprise.



www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srnsmd.org |    @SRSrockville



15th Annual St. Raphael Golf Classic



- Register
- Sponsor
- Volunteer

Event details at www.straphaelschoolmd.org



Fore!

Don't miss
the yummy
Golf Classic
bake sale at
Masses on
**Sunday,
Sept. 17!**

www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srnsmd.org |    @SRSrockville

Catechists and Aides Needed

St. Raphael Religious Education

Catechists echo the teaching of Christ by praying, preparing weekly lesson plans, teaching the lessons, loving the children and teens in their care, attending formation events, and communicating with parents.

Sundays, 7:05-8:20 p.m.

Co-Catechist for Grade 3

Catechist for Grade 4

Catechist for Grade 6

Class Aides - all grades



Class aides support catechists by helping individual learners, accompanying children outside the classroom, ensuring an attractive and functional environment, gathering and distributing supplies and worksheets, and filling other roles as needed.

Mondays, 4:30-5:45 p.m.

Co-Catechist for Grade 1

Catechist for Grade 7

Class Aides - all grades



Mondays, 7:00-8:15 p.m.

Catechist for Grade 3

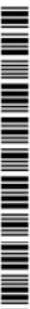
Catechist for Grade 5

Catechists for Grade 8

Class Aides - all grades



For more information, contact Mary Beaudoin at mbeaudoin@straphaels.org or 202-294-7697.





Religious Education
Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697

Religious Education Begins in Two Weeks!

We are busy preparing for the start of St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE) on September 10 and 11. Parents are reminded to register children and teens for religious education and sacrament preparation this week. Please note that families must complete the registration form each year.

Please find the registration link at
<https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education>.

SRRE offers ongoing faith formation for all children and teens, as well as preparation for sacraments. Each year of faith formation is designed to deepen relationships with Jesus and his Church through focus on what we believe, why we celebrate the sacraments, how we pray, and how we live. We look forward to seeing all our returning SRRE children and teens and welcoming new families to our faith formation program. If your family was not part of SRRE last year, please contact Mary Beaudoin to be included in email communications.

SRRE class schedule:

Sundays, 7:05-8:20 PM – grades 2-8 [no catechist yet for grades 4 or 6]

Mondays, 4:30-5:45 PM – grades kindergarten-grade 8 [no catechist yet for grade 7]

Mondays, 7:00-8:15 PM – grades 1-12 [no catechist yet for grades 3, 5, and 8]

*Family Catechesis – sessions on six Sundays at 4:30-5:45 PM

Religious Education Calendar: <https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education> (Scroll down; use arrows to find upcoming months.)

*Our Family Catechesis program helps parents grow in their own faith while they guide their children in core faith formation. Parents teach their children each week's lesson at home. Then all families come together for seasonal sessions with hands-on activities focused on faith topics. Families need to commit to spending an hour each week on faith formation with their child at home - in order to fulfill the minimum of 30 hours of instruction required by the Archdiocese of Washington – and to attend the six seasonal sessions.

Catechists and Class Aides Needed!

In the ministry of catechesis we share the Good News with the youngest generation of Catholics, so that they too will experience the light of Christ shining in the many dark places of life. You are invited to become involved in this ministry as a catechist, co-catechist, or class aide. To learn more about becoming part of our catechetical team, please contact Mary Beaudoin.

Needed:

Sunday night (7:05-8:20 PM)

Co-Catechist for grade 3

Catechist for grade 4

Catechist for grade 6

Class Aides

Monday afternoon (4:30-5:45 PM)

Co-Catechist for grade 1

Catechist for grade 7

Class Aides (all grades)

Monday night (7:00-8:15 PM)

Catechist for grade 3

Catechist for grade 5

Catechists for grade 8

Class Aides (all grades)

SRRE Class Aides: Adults and Teens

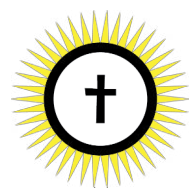
We are in need of class aides to assist our catechists. Serving as a class aide is a great way for parents (and other adults) to be part of the SRRE team while their child is in class, and to gain experience for the ministry of catechesis. By serving as class aides, middle school and high school students can earn service hours and learn about teaching and catechesis.

This year SRRE is offering teen class aides three volunteer term options: 9 week fall, 9 week winter, and 9 week spring. Please contact Ms. Mary Beaudoin for details.

Sacrament Preparation for School Age Children

In our parish, preparation for a sacrament is a process that usually encompasses about two years. Typically, baptized children begin their preparation for First Penance and First Eucharist in the first grade and receive these sacraments at the end of second grade. In general, preparation for Confirmation begins in seventh grade, and Confirmation is celebrated in the eighth grade. Children ages seven and up who have not been baptized are invited to take part in RCIA adapted for children. Children who are older than 1st grade who wish to prepare for Eucharist, and children older than 7th grade who wish to prepare for Confirmation are incorporated into our Religious Education classes and sacrament preparation process. Children in Catholic schools need to register with their parish Religious Education office so that they receive information about important meetings. Please contact Mary Beaudoin in the Religious Education Office to discuss your child's preparation for sacraments.

Eucharistic Adoration for All!



The National Eucharistic Revival in the United States is now in its second, or parish, year.

When Pope Francis met with the organizers of the National Eucharistic Congress in June, he said:

It is my hope, then, that the Eucharistic Congress will inspire Catholics throughout the country to discover anew the sense of wonder and awe at the Lord's great gift of himself and to spend time with him in the celebration of the Holy Mass and in personal prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

TeachingCatholicKids.com offers ideas on how to "do" Eucharistic Adoration with kids. Here is an excerpt:

If you're intimidated by the idea of bringing younger children (or even teens) into a quiet Eucharistic adoration chapel...or even to pray before the tabernacle...then take heart: Many parents are already taking their children along to Eucharistic adoration, with good results.

Read the entire article [here: https://](https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/eucharistic-adoration/)

www.teachingcatholickids.com/eucharistic-adoration/

Children and teens enjoy "making a visit" to the Blessed Sacrament. It can be a welcome refuge of silence and a nudge to contemplative prayer.

Representatives of Christ

Today we celebrate the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time. Remember to make time to reflect on the [Scripture readings](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/082723.cfm) with your family: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/082723.cfm>

Key Passage: He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:15-16)

... and then have a family sharing time on the questions below:

- ▶ Adults: If you were asked, how would you explain Jesus to a person who had not heard of him?
- ▶ Kids: Who do you tell people Jesus is?



Lord God,

No one is a stranger to you
And no one is ever far from your loving care.
In your kindness, watch over refugees and victims of war,
Those separated from their loved ones,
Young people who are lost,
And those who have left home or who have run away
from home. Bring them back safely to the place where
they long to be,
And help us always to show your kindness
to strangers and to all in need.

Author Unknown

Marriage Moments

At the beginning of August, I wrote that August has 2 full moons (August 1 & 30) symbolizing completion, fertility, abundance, and transformation. Good, BUT – it can also be a time of friction, polarity, and more-intense emotional energy. Reflect on how your life together has reflected both this past month.

Parenting Pointers

"Who has known the mind of the Lord?" (Romans 11:35) As a parent you want to parent well. When your child is young, certainly you are smarter and know what is best for them. But as your child grows, it's hard to know what is best. Pray, read, talk, listen.

Living *Laudato Si'* - Eco-Tips

Planet Earth supports our lives. We must take care of it. In Pope Francis' encyclical, LAUDATO SI', he calls not only on Catholics, but all humanity to care more vigorously for creation.

EDUCATE YOURSELF more on *Laudato Si'*

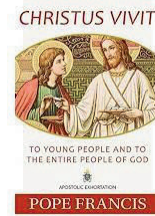
EASY: Read [Laudato Si' Chapter 5](https://www.vatican.va/encyclicals/laudato-si/) (bit.ly/3pCSCjE, Sections 163-201) on Taking Action on International, National, and Local Dialogue, Decision Making, Politics & the Economy, Religious Dialogue.

CHALLENGING: Decide one of the above topics to act on.

*Marriage Moments, Parenting Pointers, and Eco-Tips by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

Christus Vivit

To Young People and to the Entire People of God



Christus vivit (Christ is alive) is a post-synodal apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis, written in response to the Fifteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, on young people, faith, and vocational discernment. That synod was held in October 2018. This week we continue Chapter Six: Young People with Roots.

Don't allow yourselves to be uprooted - continued

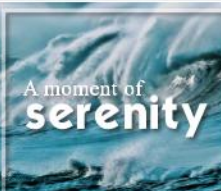
183. Dear young friends, do not let them exploit your youth to promote a shallow life that confuses beauty with appearances. Realize that there is beauty in the laborer who returns home grimy and unkempt, but with the joy of having earned food for his family. There is extraordinary beauty in the fellowship of a family at table, generously sharing what food it has. There is beauty in the wife, slightly disheveled and no longer young, who continues to care for her sick husband despite her own failing health. Long after the springtime of their courtship has passed, there is beauty in the fidelity of those couples who still love one another in the autumn of life, those elderly people who still hold hands as they walk. There is also a beauty, unrelated to appearances or fashionable dress, in all those men and women who pursue their personal vocation with love, in selfless service of community or nation, in the hard work of building a happy family, in the selfless and demanding effort to advance social harmony. To find, to disclose and to highlight this beauty, which is like that of Christ on the cross, is to lay the foundations of genuine social solidarity and the culture of encounter.

184. Along with the stratagems of a false cult of youth and appearance, we are also witnessing attempts to promote a spirituality without God, an affectivity without community or concern for those who suffer, a fear of the poor, viewed as dangerous, and a variety of claims to offer a future paradise that nonetheless seems increasingly distant. I do not want to offer you any such thing, and with great love I urge you not to let yourselves be taken in by this ideology. It will not make you any younger, but enslave you instead. I propose another way, one born of freedom, enthusiasm, creativity and new horizons, while at the same time cultivating the roots that nourish and sustain us.

185. In this regard, I would note that "many Synod Fathers coming from non-Western contexts pointed out that in their countries globalization is bringing with it forms of cultural colonization that sever young people from their cultural and religious roots. The Church needs to make a commitment to accompanying these young people, so that in the process they do not lose sight of the most precious features of their identity."

186. Today, in fact, we see a tendency to "homogenize" young people, blurring what is distinctive about their origins and backgrounds, and turning them into a new line of malleable goods. This produces a cultural devastation that is just as serious as the disappearance of species of animals and plants. For this reason, in addressing young indigenous people gathered in Panama, I encouraged them to "care for your roots, because from the roots comes the strength that is going to make you grow, flourish and bear fruit."

 **JOHN L. DU FIEF, INC.**
63 Years of Service
Custom Homes
Additions • Renovations
www.dufiefbuilders.com • 301-424-6164 • johnndufief@verizon.net
Member of the Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County

 A moment of
serenity

2222 Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20007
202.333.6680
Valet Parking Available

De Vol
FUNERAL HOME
Serving the Catholic Community
Family Owned and Operated for over 70 Years
Kevin G. DeVol & Robert G. DeVol
www.DeVolFuneralHome.com

10 East Deer Park Dr
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
301.948.6800

 **myParish**
The App for
Catholic Life Every Day
www.myParishApp.com
Available on the App Store | ANDROID APP ON Google play

At **MORRIS-PALERM, LLC** our attorneys provide exceptional representation in a wide range of legal matters, including:


- Real Estate / all aspects including foreclosure defense
- Personal Injury
- Bankruptcy
- Business Law
- Commercial Law

Our attorneys possess over 50 years of collective experience. FREE initial consultation
Hablamos Español
751 Rockville Pike, Ste 2A
Rockville, MD 20852
301-424-6290
Dplaza@MorrisPalerm.com



catholicmatch®
Maryland

CatholicMatch.com/goMD

 **LAW OFFICE OF DAMIEN V. ALEXANDER**
Spotlighting the Issues and Leading Clients Through Their Transactions.
We provide general counsel services to individuals and organizations on a wide range of issues, including:
**Business Law • Employment
Media and Entertainment Law
Real Estate Transactions / Settlement
(Commercial & Residential)**
Call/Email **Damien V. Alexander, Esq.** for information
Damien@dvalawoffice.com
Active St. Raphael Parishioner & Parent to 3 S.R.S. Graduates
202.997.0471 • <http://dvalawoffice.com>

 **Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.**
Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/3286
...or scan → 
 **DISCOVERMASS**

Thank you to our local sponsors!

THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU

For information on advertising, please call or email **Lisa Sparkman** at **717-507-3766** or **LSparkman@Diocesan.com**

DIOCESAN
Catholic Life Every Day



BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE, INC.
7557 WISCONSIN AVE
BETHESDA, MD 20814
(301) 652-2200
www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com

William A. Pumphrey, 6th Generation

ROBERT A.
Pumphrey
FUNERAL HOMES
Family owned since 1854

ROCKVILLE, INC.
300 W. MONTGOMERY AVE
ROCKVILLE, MD 20850
(301) 762-3939
pumphrey@pumphreyfh.com



**SELECTED
Independent
FUNERAL HOMES**
Member by Invitation

Crematorium on Premises.

HANDYMAN

Rafael Mata

In this line of business
since 1981

Referrals upon request

(301) 704-3149



English Express
**LEARN ENGLISH OR
SPANISH ONLINE!**

Private Instruction with
an Experienced Teacher

301-245-6620

www.englishexpressinc.com



MICHAEL P. ROSE

Ranked in the Top 1% of Realtors Nationwide

www.MichaelPRose.com

LOYAL ST. RAPHAEL PARISHIONER &
PROUD PARENT OF 4 SRS CHILDREN



Taking Real Estate to the
Professional Level It Deserves!

Office: 301-340-8700 ext. 103

Cell: 301-814-3200 (cell)

Email: MPRose57@aol.com



Serra Stone Corporation

Custom Stone Work • Brick & Concrete

Walkways • Patios • Walls • More...

FREE ESTIMATES

301-986-1830 • www.serrastone.com

DAMIAN ROOFING

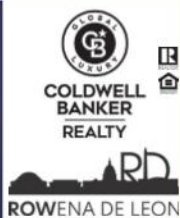
Commercial & Residential
Contractor/Consultant

443-977-8842

John Damian Kilner



Nature is
inspiration



Rowena De Leon, Realtor®

Active & Loyal Parishioner since 1999

Licensed in MD, DC, & VA

C. 240.423.2422 | O. 301.718.0010

rowena.deleon@cbrealty.com

rowenadeleon.com

ASSISTED LIVING THAT'S JUST RIGHT

Raphael House

ASSISTED LIVING

301-493-6000

1515 Dunster Road • Rockville

Affiliate of the Archdiocese of Washington

WWW.VICTORYHOUSING.ORG



Jim Kuzma

301-608-0988

zmapaint@aol.com

Exterior • Interior

Fully Licensed & Insured

Serving Montgomery County Since 1980

Free Medicare

Information & Counseling

State Health Insurance
Assistance Program

**Montgomery
County SHIP**

- Certified Medicare Experts
- Unbiased Public Service

301-255-4250

www.MedicareABCD.org

O'DONNELL'S Market

(301) 251-6355 | odonnellsmarket.com



Seniors Helping Seniors®

PROVIDING COMPANIONSHIP & IN-HOME CARE

Our unique program matches mature adults who want to help
with seniors who are in need of help. We're proud to serve
Rockville and the surrounding areas!

shsbethesda.com

301-895-0205

MYHIC# 135277

MY CONTRACTOR SERVICE, LLC

Bathroom/Kitchen Remodeling
Paint • Flooring • Carpentry
Roofing • Siding
Windows • Door Replacement • Decks

301-742-4698
mycontractorservice.com

Family Owned ~ Since 1939

Francis J.
COLLINS
Funeral Home, Inc.

301-593-9500
WWW.COLLINSFUNERALHOME.COM

Maureen Collins McHugh ~ parishioner

Bird of Paradise Spa



Feel Great Inside
& out with us!

301-652-1005

Browse Our Services on our website:

birdofparadisepspa.com

Maggie@birdofparadisepspa.com

Parishioner

"External Beauty is a Product
of Internal Harmony & Balance"

(703) 716-ROOF (7663)

www.sjroof.com



**ST JOSEPH'S
ROOFING**

Roofing | Siding | Gutters | Windows/Doors
Insurance Claims | Storm Damage | Repairs

